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facturer; while his general remarks show that as compared with Canada or South Africa or even New Zealand, Australia is becoming more and more a poor man's country—a country to which an immigrant with little capital can go with some expectation of not always remaining of the wage-earning class. This change in conditions in Australia is due to the gradual breaking up of the large estates, and the aid given by the government to men of character and energy who are willing to settle on the land. Mr. Birchbough's survey of commercial and industrial conditions in South Africa, which comes down to 1910, is the best short paper in print on the subject, and is particularly serviceable as regards conditions on the Rand and the relation of the mines to the trade of the whole of the country south of the Zambesi. Mr. Griffith's lecture on Canada is perhaps the least valuable of any in the series. Professor Ashley's introduction extends to fifteen pages all used to the best advantage; particularly where he describes the commercial links of Empire, such as the Imperial Intelligence Service and the Imperial Advisory Board on Commercial Affairs which have their centres at the Board of Trade at Whitehall.

EDWARD PORRITT.

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Woman and Labor. By OLIVE SCHREINER. (New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company. 1911. Pp. 299. \$1.25.)

This is one of those books which, by dealing with a topic of popular interest in a picturesque and positive manner, attract more attention than they would deserve for the actual light they throw upon the subjects in question. In the present instance, the "light" is that of a dark lantern flashed here and there, up and down the range of industrial history, to bring into view only such scenes as would substantiate the author's main thesis, which is, briefly, that "the changes which have taken place during the last centuries, and which we sum up under the compendious term modern civilization have tended to rob woman, not merely in part, but almost wholly, of the more valuable part of her ancient domain of productive and social labor; and, where there has not been a determined and conscious resistance on her part, have nowhere spontaneously tended to open out to her new and compensatory fields."

The woman of today, in other words, is in danger of becoming a "parasite," and it is the fear of future danger to the race and

not a desire for personal advantage which the author sees as the basis of the present unrest of women, and their struggle for wider opportunities. For, in her opinion, their efforts to secure these wider fields "almost of necessity and immediately lead to personal loss and renunciation."

A bare statement of this position shows how restricted is her view. In the readjustments of labor force incident to industrial development, she sees only cases of displacement of female labor and the extension of the field of male labor, and is quite blind to readjustments in which work taken from women in one form is handed back to them in another, or where actual displacements of male labor by female labor have been effected. In fact, she does not even seem to note the actual presence, enough to take it into serious account, of the great and growing army of working women, who are daily confuting her theories merely by existing.

She notes an increased productivity of industry which enables the maintenance of a dependent or "parasite" class of women; but she entirely fails to see that this surplus is in the hands of a relatively small class of the community, and that even there a standard of life, constantly rising, creates a strain on the surplus of any given moment which affords a stimulus to further labor, felt by the women as well as by the men.

It is to be hoped, however, that the general reader, who is the one most impressed by this book, and who cannot be expected to possess the critical apparatus necessary for the unravelling of all the economic and biological fallacies with which the book is crammed, may at least, on emerging from the thunderous torrent of Mrs. Schreiner's rhetoric, be brought to a wholesome sense of reality by the actual sight of what is going on in the busy world about him, and banish as a bad dream this vision of "parasites."

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Die Industrie und der Stadt. By HUGO BOETTGER. (Tübingen: J. C. B. Mohr. 1910. Pp. viii, 241. 3.20 m.)

This is a careful and valuable, although very brief, account of the industrial changes of the last half century in Germany with the effects of such changes on economic theory and on social and political life. The author is quite in sympathy with the best thought of the day in emphasizing the need of the state's taking